



# 2018 CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS AND FIELD TRIPS

**Thursday, October 4, 2018**

**Pre-Conference Events**

**Environmental Education Certification (EEC) – Strand 1      Time: 9:00 am – 3:30 pm**

MAEOE is offering a state environmental education certification following the guidelines of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). Much of the process is self-paced and requires five strands to be completed before certification is conferred. Strand 1, however, requires a specific workshop which enables candidates to be educated in the history of EE in Michigan, Michigan natural resources, EE best practices and more. Completion of Strand 1 is mandatory and only offered three times a year. For more information about the EE certification go to [www.maeoe.com](http://www.maeoe.com) **Where:** Blue Water Convention Center **Workshop Fee:** \$50.00

**Environmental Education Certification – Capstone Projects      Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm**

A record 11 Michigan educators are edging closer to completion of their EEC. Their final step, presenting their capstone project, will take place at the 2018 MAEOE Conference in several weekend sessions, the first beginning Thursday evening. If you are in town and interested in the EEC, stop by and listen to 4-5 candidates share their EEC journey, and capstone project, in a series of 10-15 minute presentations. **Where:** Blue Water Convention Center

**Canadian Field Trip – Rock Glen Conservation Area      Time 10:30 am – 3:30 pm**

Come to Port Huron a day early and take advantage of a tremendous field trip to Ontario, the Rock Glen Conservation Area. The story of civilization around Rock Glen dates back to early indigenous people who utilized the nearby hills to hunt the barren ground caribou some 10,000 years ago. Rock Glen features some of the best Devonian Era fossils in North America, an amazing diversity of flora and fauna and the beautiful Ausable Gorge. Join Denise Iszczuk, conservation educator for the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, for a wonderful day of nature exploration in a unique ecosystem, the transition zone between the Carolinian Forest and the Great Lake/St Lawrence Zone. **Travel Time:** 55 Minutes. **Method of Transportation:** carpool **Time-line:** Carpool leaves promptly from Blue Water Convention Center Parking Lot at 10:30 am. Stopping in Sarnia to pick up lunch (Subway, etc on your own), Arrive 12:00 noon and explore the area with Denise from 12-2:30 pm. Return to Port Huron by 3:30 or 4:00 pm. **Passport or enhanced Michigan Drivers License needed to enter Canada. Field Trip Fee:** \$20

**Friday, October 5, 2018**

**Morning Workshops**

**New and Improved Project WILD K-12**

**Time: 8:00 – 11:30 am**

Join DNR K-12 Education Specialist, and human dynamo, Natalie Elkins as she leads you through the recently revised Project Wild educators' guide. This major upgrade of America's most popular supplemental natural resources curriculum includes connections to NGSS, STEM and career connections. The new guide is yours, along with hours of hands on, exploratory fun and creativity. This professional development workshop also fulfills a Strand 2 requirement for the Michigan Environmental Education Certification (EEC). Whether you are new to EE or a 30 year old EE veteran, this workshop will inspire, educate and exhaust! **Where:** Blue Water Convention Center **Fee: \$20**

**My Thorn Bush has Berries: Cooking and Crafting with Invasive Plants** **Time: 8:00 – 11:30 am**

Invasive species, one of Michigan's more serious environmental threats, continually make headlines. Whether at a school or nature center, your education menu is not complete without offering some lessons or programming on this issue. Invasive plant removal has also been incorporated into many service learning projects. But this workshop, and Lea Sevigny, add a new twist! Once you locate and remove invasive species, why not take the next step! YES, you can cook and craft many invasive plants which expands your education horizon and enables you to bring a unique awareness opportunity to your school and community. Making jam and syrup, greeting cards and more. **Where:** Blue Water Convention Center **Fee: \$10**

**Guided Nature Therapy Immersion**

**Time: 8:00 – 11:30 am**

The No Child Left Inside movement has spurred hundreds of research papers about the value of being outside. Everyone in environmental and outdoor education is familiar with nature's positive effect on our intellect, health and emotions. But the Japanese have practiced forest bathing for years. *Bathing* in the forest atmosphere and using all our senses is at the heart of shinrin-yoku. Join Cayla Samano, a certified Forest Therapy Guide, as she demonstrates this slow, contemplative and playful experience. Learn how to get really connected to nature and learn the science-based health benefits of forest bathing. **Where:** Introduction at the Blue Water Convention Center and then outside! **Fee: \$20**

**What in the World is Modeling and What Does it Have to Do with Engineering?** **Time: 8:00 -11:30**

STEM is everywhere and educators who don't integrate it into their lessons will be left behind! And of all STEM concepts, it is engineering that frightens people the most! Join educator Tricia Benkert, and fellow educators, as she demonstrates modeling and environmental engineering into lesson plans that engage students. Place-based learning? Solving real-life problems? It's all in this workshop that allows you to try new things, learn creative ideas and leave with free materials! **Fee: \$0.00**

**Saturday, October 6, 2018**

**Afternoon Field Trips**

**Pine River Nature Center/Goodells Historical Village      Time: 1:00 – 4:30 pm**

Only a short 20-minute drive from Port Huron, St Clair County RESA operates the Pine River Nature Center, an 80-acre expanse of hardwood forest, wetlands and prairie. Meet Sarah Davidson-Nelson at the nature center, hike along the ravines of the Pine River and experience their incredible learning Treehouse. After a brief break, join Dennis Delor at the nearby Historical Village which exhibits five buildings from the mid to late 1800's. Combine natural and cultural resource education all in one afternoon? An environmental educator's delight! **Travel Time:** 20-25 minutes. **Method of Transportation:** carpool **Time-line:** Carpool leaves promptly from Blue Water Convention Center Parking Lot at 1:00 pm. **Field Trip Fee:** \$0.00

**Blue Water River Walk: History and Walking Tour      Time: 1:00 – 4:30 pm**

One of the gems of Port Huron is the Blue Water River Walk, more than a mile-long trail that skirts the St Clair River with views of Canada, freighters and wildlife. Combine a bit of exercise and education as Amy Meeker-Taylor, Environmental Educator for Friends of the St Clair River, leads you on a 1-2 mile hike along the river and educates you about these restored shoreline areas. You will also meet some of the volunteer stewards who keep the River Walk clean, free of invasive species and restore natives. Is there a better way to spend a autumn afternoon in Michigan? A relaxing walk along the St Clair River? **Travel Time:** 10 Minutes from Blue Water Convention Center. **Method of Transportation:** carpool **Time-line:** Brief indoor presentation and then out to Blue Water Convention Center Parking Lot. **Field Trip Fee:** \$0.00

**Technical Tree Climbing at Camp Cavell      Time: 1:00 – 4:30 pm**

We all climbed trees as kids...but not like this! Using professional arborist safety equipment you can climb to new heights, 35 feet at least, and discover a new world up in the trees. Oh, did we tell you about the hammock? Yes, once in the trees you can transfer your physical being into a hammock and observe arboreal life! Once you are grounded, stroll around beautiful Camp Cavell and enjoy the campus with your feet firmly planted on the ground! All in all, a great day to explore new skills, commune with nature and experience a natural high (arboristically speaking). **Travel Time:** 30 Minutes from Blue Water Convention Center. **Method of Transportation:** carpool **Time-line:** carpool leaves Blue Water Convention Center Parking Lot promptly at 1:00 pm. Returns to Port Huron by 4:30 pm. **Field Trip Fee:** \$15.00

**Oh Canada, Oh Sarnia, Oh Boy!      Time: 1:00 – 4:30 pm**

Sarnia, Ontario lies just across the Blue Water Bridge and has several venues that would interest and excite conference participants. Let's start at beautiful Canatara Park where Kim Gledbill will hike you through a Carolinian forest, wetland and dune reserve. She will also explain her work with school groups at the park and teach you a few new activities for use anywhere. From there, it is on to the Stones and Bones Museum just ten minutes away. This unique collection includes dinosaur artifacts, fossils, butterflies, mounted wildlife and more. More than 6,000 objects are on display. And why not spend 15 minutes at the Duty Free shop on the way back? **Travel Time:** 15 Minutes from Blue Water Convention Center. **Method of Transportation:** carpool **Time-line:** carpool leaves Blue Water Convention Center Parking Lot promptly at 1:00 pm. Returns to Port Huron by 4:30 pm. **Passport or enhanced Michigan Drivers License needed to enter Canada.** **Field Trip Fee:** \$15.00

**Sunday, October 7, 2018**

**Post-Conference Events**

**New and Improved Project WET 2.0**

**Time: 10:15 am – 1:30 pm**

Michigan Project WET Coordinator, Janet Vail, will lead you through the recently revised Project WET educators' guide. Water Education for Teachers (WET) is nationally renowned and one of the most popular supplemental natural resources curriculums in America. The new guide is yours as part of the workshop. This professional development workshop also fulfills a Strand 2 requirement for the Michigan Environmental Education Certification (EEC). Whether you are a currently trained WET educator or participating for the first time, you will enjoy this chance to learn about our planet's most precious resource. **Where:** Blue Water Convention Center **Fee:** \$35

**Aboard the Schooner – Appledore IV and Lake Huron Cruise**

**Time 10:15 am – 1:30 pm**

Those of you that attended the MAEOE conference in Bay City (2011) may remember the buzz from those that went on Baysail's schooner Appledore IV in Saginaw Bay. Here is your opportunity to find out what the buzz was! The Appledore IV, on its way to Detroit is weighing anchor in Port Huron for the MAEOE Conference. At a much reduced rate, the Appledore will cast off from Port Huron and take its intrepid sailors for a three hour tour, more or less. This will include some history of the area, environmental issues affecting the Great Lakes, science sampling and assisting with the sails. Arggg! A rare experience on a tall ship on a Great Lake! Are you kidding me? **Travel Time:** 15 Minutes from Blue Water Convention Center to Seaway Terminal docks. **Method of Transportation:** carpool **Time-line:** carpool leaves Blue Water Convention Center Parking Lot promptly at 10:15 pm. Appledore Cruise makes fast by 1:30 pm **Field Trip Fee:** \$25.00